

MITIGATED DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE

Description of proposal: Quark Timber Sale App. No. 74719 and Forest Practice Application No. 2806315. Even-aged harvest of 2,690 MBF of timber from 56 acres. Proposal includes 6,151 feet of road construction and 343 feet of road abandonment. Proposal will involve the application of 4,920 cubic yards of ballast, 2,092 cubic yards of 3-inch-minus rock and 68 cubic yards of rip rap from 1 existing, and 1 proposed hard rock pit on State land.

Description of mitigation: See attached sheet.

Proponent: Department of Natural Resources.

Location of proposal, including street address, if any: Section 1, Township 36 North, Range 5 East, Sections 6 and 7, Township 36 North, Range 6 East. Proposal is located approximately 24 miles northeast of Sedro Woolley, in Skagit County. From Sedro Woolley take Highway 20, go east 10.7 miles to the Cabin Creek Road, travel north .3 miles to the Hamilton Cemetery Road, go 2 miles east on Hamilton Cemetery Road to the Crown Pacific Mainline. Take the Crown Mainline go in a northerly direction 6.0 miles to the junction of the CP-162 Road. Take the CP-162 Road travel approximately 4.9 miles to the CA-1000 Road. Take the CA-1000 Road and go 1.8 miles north to Unit #1. At the junction of the CA-1000 and CA-1100 roads, go in a northwesterly direction on the CA-1100 Road .7 miles to Unit #2.

Lead agency: Department of Natural Resources.

The lead agency for this proposal has determined that it does not have a probable significant adverse impact on the environment. An environmental impact statement (EIS) is not required under RCW 43.21C.030(2)(c). This decision was made after review of a completed environmental checklist and other information on file with the lead agency. This information is available to the public on request.

☐ There is no comment period for this Mitigated DNS.

☐ This MDNS is issued under 197-11-340(2); the lead agency will not act on this proposal for 14 days from _____. Comments must be submitted by_____.

Responsible official: William J. Wallace

Position/title: Region Manager Phone: 360-856-3500

Address: 919 North Township Street, Sedro-Woolley, WA 98284

Date: _____ Signature: _____

There is no agency SEPA appeal.

11/09/00

MITIGATED MEASURES

Quark Timber Sale, App. No. 74719

Streams:

2 type 3 streams with 157-foot no harvest buffers.
1 wetland has a 157-foot buffer.

The CA-1000 Road encroaches on the wetland management zone. This will be mitigated by adding a like amount to the buffer to the north end of the wetland management zone. A selected amount of trees have been marked with orange paint for removal. A minimum of 120 square feet of basal area per acre will be left.

Unstable Slopes:

Unstable areas have been deleted from the proposal.

Roads:

Roads will be constructed during the dry times of the year. Exposed cut and fill slopes will be mulched or grass seeded after construction. 343 feet of road will be abandoned after use. Hauling will be restricted to the dry times of the year.

Wildlife:

The proposal is within the range of the Nooksack Elk Herd designated as "core management area" by WDFW. The WDFW's management plan for this herd cites loss of thermal cover due to timber harvest, lack of corridors for travels between winter and summer ranges, and human disturbance as major factors that have contributed to the decline of this herd. The Nooksack Elk Herd Management Plan, published in March, 2002, recommends habitat enhancement by seeding cleared areas to promote quality forage, limiting human access by gating roads, and maintaining corridors for the herds to move between ranges. On department lands, harvest units are scheduled to maintain large corridors for Elk movement. Ground disturbed by new road construction will be grass seeded with a special elk forage mix recommended by WDFW. The access road for all department land in the area is gated and kept locked by the private landowner in order to limit access.

Green Tree Retention:

Approximately 540 trees greater than 12 inches in dbh will be left. The largest, dominant trees will be scattered and clumped over the proposal units. In Units #1 and #2, large snags are being protected with clumps of trees. These snags are considered to be important to wildlife. 540 trees represent 9.6 trees per acre being left.

Logging Method:

Proposal will be logged using cable and shovel logging equipment. Shovel equipment will be limited to slopes 25% and less, within 400 feet of roads, and will be limited to the dry times of the year. When yarding with cable system, full suspension is required when yarding over streams.